Construction of Motor Bridge on River Ganges

1251. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) when was the construction work on motor bridge being constructed over river Ganges connecting Rishikesh and Pauri started;

(b) what is the total amount spent so far on the said motor bridge and what are the main hindrances in completing the same at an early date;

(c) whether it is a fact that the said motor bridge collapsed during the course of winds of very high velocity in the year 1991-92;

(d) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to change the site of the motor bridge from Dev Prayag to Umaraso; and

(e) whether Government propose to complete the construction of the said motor bridge at the earliest in order to remove the difficulties being faced by the residents of the area, and if so, by when the construction work is likely to be completed and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (e) Constitutionally, the Government of India is primarily concerned with roads declared as National Highways only, including bridges thereon. The responsibility for roads other than National Highways is essentially that of the State Governments concerned. Since the bridge in question falls on the State road network, its construction is the responsibility of the State Government of Uttar Pradesh.

1252. [*Transferred to 14th May, 1993*]

National Highways in Eighth Five Year Plan

1253. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the New National Highways proposed to be created in Eighth Five Year Plan in different parts of the country;

(b) what are the proposals for the conversion of State Highways into National Highways; and

(c) by when they will be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) The Government of India have received 135 proposals from various States for declaration of new National Highways. However, owing to limited allocations earmarked for the Central Sector Roads Programme in the 8th Five Year Plan, it is very difficult to consider declaration of any new National Highway in any State at present.

Development of National Highway No. 17

1254. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned for repair of the National Highway No. 17 linking Goa and Bombay; and

(b) whether the work has been started and if so, by when it is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) As per information

reported by the States, following amounts were allocated for maintenance and repairs of NH 17 during 1992-93 :—

Maharashtra	Rs. 274.27 lakhs
Goa	Rs. 116.74 lakhs

(b) Maintenance and repairs is a continuing activity and is carried out round the year wherever necessary to keep the road in traffic worthy condition within the availability of funds.

Accidents caused by Red Line Buses

1255. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after the induction of high profile Red Line Buses, road accidents in Delhi have risen in recent months resulting in many a promising youngmen becoming disabled life long;

(b) what is the number of accidents both fatal and grievious during January-March, 1993;

(c) whether it is a fact that Red Line Buses break the traffic rules with impunity for which they have been charge sheeted;

(d) whether Government have fixed any Rules so that the victims of road accidents get compensation promptly for their medical treatment and rehabilitation in life; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The number of fatal accidents during the period January-March, 1993 were 430. No accident involving grievious injury had been reported during this period.

(c) Till 26-4-93, 15,555 traffic violations involving Red Line Buses were detected and prosecuted by the Delhi Traffic Police.

(d) and (e) Victims of road accidents are eligible for compensation as per the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988. Section 165 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 provides for setting up of Motor Accidents Claims Tribunals by the State Governments for the purpose of settling claims for compensation in respect of accidents involving death, bodily injury to the persons arising out of the use of the motor vehicles. Six such Claims Tribunals have been set up in Delhi.

Posts of Chairman and Deputy Chairman lying vacant in ports

1256. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some major ports do not have Chairman and Deputy Chairman; if so, the details thereof;

(b) what is the number of major ports which do not have regular incumbents for Head of Department and since when; and

(c) what steps Government are proposing to take to fill up posts with regular appointment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) Details are as under:—